

Commissioner Lori F. Kaplan

Text as prepared for: Hamilton County Household Hazardous Waste Center Grand Opening

Date presented: Wednesday, March 6, 2002, 8:30 AM

Location: Noblesville, Indiana

(Text does not include verbatim comments)

- First of all, congratulations!
 - This is the fun part of my job... helping Hoosiers make sure they dispose of their waste in an environmentally friendly way!
 - Thank you so much for making this commitment.

- Why the center will have such a positive impact!
 - It will allow 180,000 Hamilton County residents to properly dispose of their household hazardous waste!
 - Items such as leftover motor oil, old paint, used-up batteries, disinfectants and cleaners, mercury thermometers and swimming pool chemicals are just some of the items accepted here.
 - These items, if not disposed of properly, can harm the environment and adversely affect human health.
 - It's necessary.
 - Americans produce four (4) million pounds of household hazardous waste **per day**.
 - Your household hazardous waste facility will make a large dent in that figure by taking in an estimated **120,000 lbs.** of HHW in its first year.
 - That's 120,000 lbs. of HHW that might otherwise end up in a landfill – where it could harm the environment.
 - And after the word gets out, you can expect that amount to **double** next year!

- It's convenient!

- Open 47 hours a week.
- Located in the middle of Hamilton county, just two miles from downtown Noblesville.
- Two cool features of Hamilton Co. HHW center.
 - Your facility is itself recycled! Who would have ever thought that an old airplane hangar would be converted into a recycling center?
 - This facility is going to set up a "swap shop," which will allow residents to reuse excess, but still usable, household products that are dropped off by others.
 - In this way, you're preventing pollution *and* recycling!
- Presentation of check (*To Judy Levine and Steve Holt*)
 - We at IDEM are proud to have been able to provide a \$60,000 grant to help get this project off the ground.
 - But, let me be very clear that you – Hamilton County residents – are the ones that will make this center a success!